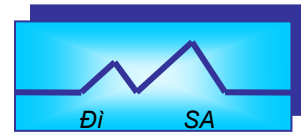


Implementing the Generic Law on Official Statistics – lessons learnt in Armenia

UNECE/EFTA Expert Meeting on Modernizing Statistical Legislation, online
18 - 19 November 2021, Geneva

Stepan Mnatsakanyan, President, Armstat



Legal framework

- Generic Law on Official Statistics (GLOS), 2016



Model Law to support countries to develop national laws, taking into account historical and cultural traditions, legislative environment and peculiarities of the governance system

- Armenian Law on Official Statistics, 9 April 2018



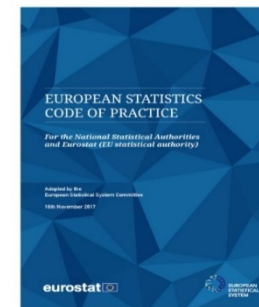
Principal Provisions of the Armenian Law

Definition of Official Statistics (Article 3, paragraph 1)

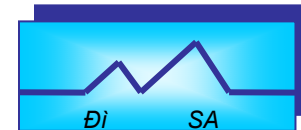
- Official statistics are statistics developed, produced and disseminated by law-authorized bodies in accordance with the requirements of the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics, exclusively reflected in statistical programs that are the numerical expression of the essential and measurable phenomena of public life, describing on a representative basis the economic, demographic, social and environmental situation of the country.



UN Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics



European Statistics Code of Practice

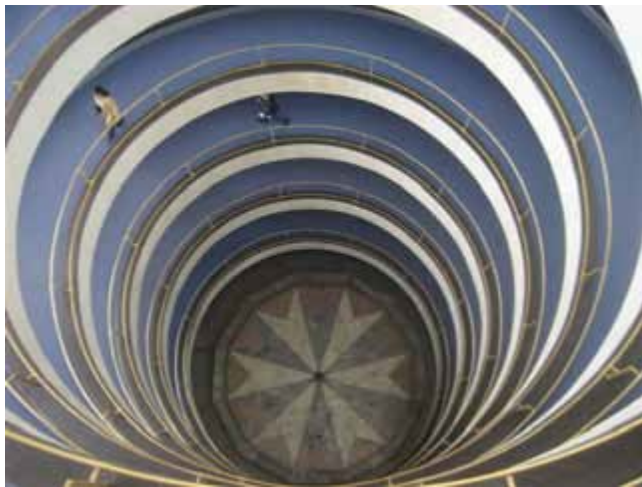
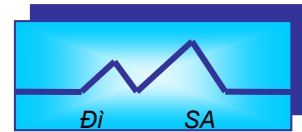


Professional independence (Article 6, paragraph 1, subparagraph 1):

Producers of official statistics decide, independently and free from any pressures or interference from political or other external sources, on the development, production and dissemination of statistics, including the selection of data sources, concepts, definitions, methods and classifications to be used, and the timing and content of all forms of dissemination.

Impartiality and objectivity (Article 6, paragraph 1, subparagraph 2):

Official statistics is developed, produced and disseminated in a neutral, reliable and unbiased manner according to professional standards and free from any political statements or considerations. **All users have equal and simultaneous access to official statistics.**



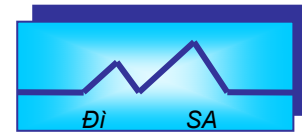
The spectacular stairs of Armstat

Armstat

is an independent state body implementing functions aimed at public interest that is independent in its activities and radically different from state institutions with certain political orientation.

The guarantees for not involving official statistics in conflicts between political, administrative and departmental interests are defined by the UN Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics (Article 7, paragraphs 1 and 2)

State Council on Statistics



(Article 7, paragraph 3; Article 8, paragraph 1; Article 10, paragraph 3, subparagraphs 1, 2 and 4, paragraph 4)

- The supreme body of governance of the NSS, including Armstat, except for the Central Bank for the development, production and dissemination of official statistics.
- The State Council consists of seven members, who are appointed by the Government of the Republic of Armenia, for a six-year term.
- President of Armstat is the Chairman of the State Council



The State Council:

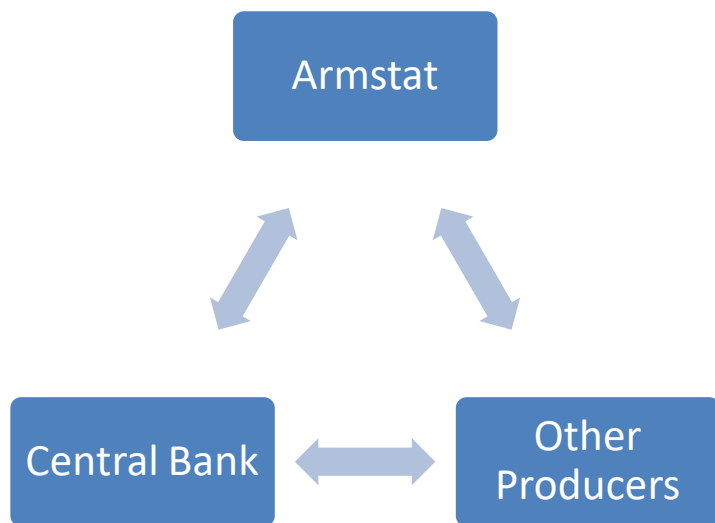
- ✓ adopts normative and individual decisions on official statistics
- ✓ approves an annual and five year statistical programs and reports on programs implementation

- Statistical programs are the basis for the implementation of official statistics in the country (Article 14, paragraph 1 and Articles 15-17).



Coordination of the NSS

- All producers of official statistics use uniform, internationally agreed concepts, definitions, classifications and methods. Armstat coordinates common practices across the national statistical system, except the Central Bank, in collaboration with other producers of official statistics (Article 13, paragraphs 1 and 3).



The Central Bank maintains statistics on the international investment position, balance of payments and external debt in strict accordance with the requirements of the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics (“Law on Amendments to the Law on the Central Bank”, which entered into force on 09.04.2018, Article 5, paragraph 1, subparagraph 7).

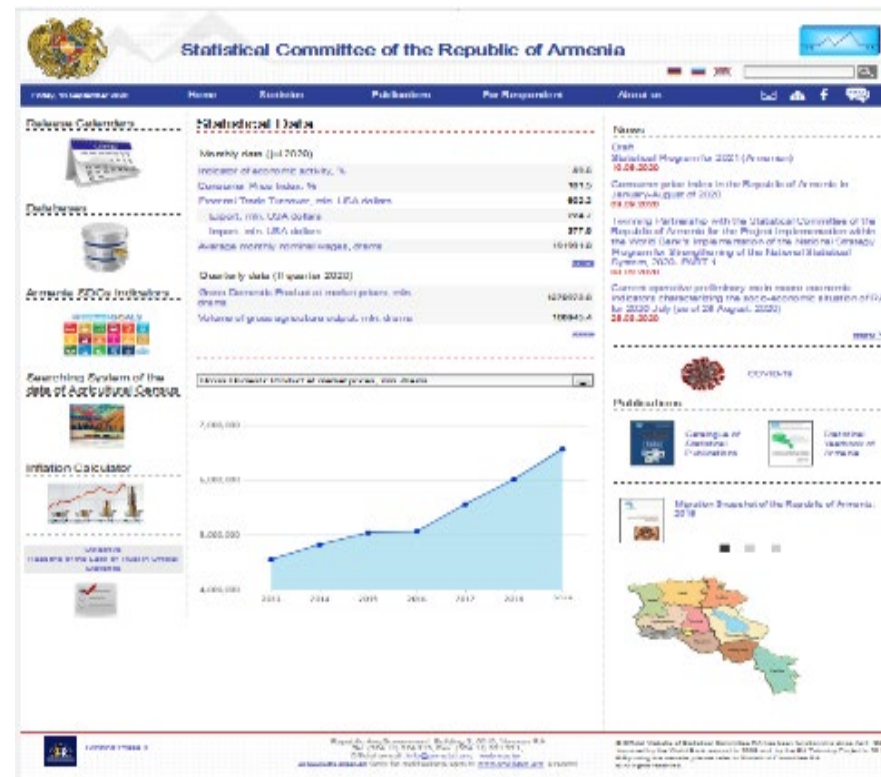
Access to administrative data

State and local self-government bodies are obliged to provide the producers of official statistics, free of charge, with data in their possession at the level of detail necessary for the production of official statistics, as well as with the metadata that enable assessing data quality (Article 20, paragraph 1).



Dissemination of official statistics

- Armstat and other producers of official statistics develop and publish an advance release calendar that indicates the planned dates for the releases of official statistics (Article 31, paragraph 2).
- Dissemination of official statistics is accompanied by metadata and explanatory comments, and access is provided through publications at websites of Armstat and other producers of official statistics (Article 31, paragraph 3).

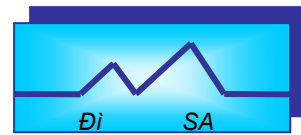




Statistical confidentiality

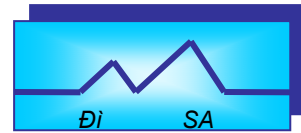
- **Statistical confidentiality and exclusive use for statistical purposes:** individual data collected or obtained by Producers of Official Statistics that refer to natural or legal persons are to be strictly confidential and used exclusively for statistical purposes (Article 6, paragraph 1, subparagraph 6).
- Individual data collected for statistical purposes should not be used by any body or international organization in investigations, preliminary investigations, surveillance, judicial proceedings, administrative decisions or other similar processes related to natural or legal persons (Article 23, paragraph 3).

CONFIDENTIAL



- **Status of other producers**





Thank you



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